

CLASSIFICATION

COUNTRY Poland REPORTTOPIC 1. Soviet Signal-Communications Detachment in Piatkowo.2. Polish Troops and Security Police Office in Poznan.EVALUATION 50X1 PLACE OBTAINEDDATE OF CONTENT 50X1-HUMDATE OBTAINED 4 May 1951 DATE PREPARED

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)REMARKS 50X1-HUM50X1-HUMSoviet Signal-Communications Detachment in Piatkowo.

1. After June 1949, a detachment of about 25 Soviet signalmen was stationed in Piatkowo (P 53/X 26) near Poznan. The soldiers operated a telephone exchange and were responsible for the maintenance of the Soviet telephone line between Poznan and Oborniki (P 53/X 00). The line allegedly was part of the trunk line from Warsaw to the Soviet Zone of Germany. The detachment was equipped with two U.S. type trucks which were used for line repairs. In August 1950, the detachment was billeted in the fourth house, counting from the south, on the southern perimeter of the village, on the east side of the road to Poznan. A Polish signal office was located in the next house farther to the south. The detachment was commanded by a lieutenant. The troops wore black epaulets. (1)

Barracks Installations in Poznan.50X1-HUM

2. Prior to August 1950, a tank unit of the Polish Army, which was observed 50X1-HUM in Poznan for the first time in the spring of 1949, was stationed in 50X1-HUM the barracks installation on ul. Golcinska. The barracks gate was opposite the end of the streetcarline No 9. 50X1-HUM the unit belonged to 50X1-HUM "Dywizja Pancerna", but could not specify whether this was the designation of a tank division. (2) The barracks installation, which was not damaged during the war, is a compound of four-story barracks buildings forming a large barracks yard. When participating in the parade on 1 May 1950, the strength of the unit was roughly estimated at 600 troops. The enlisted personnel were believed to belong to the 1926 through 1928 classes. 50X1-HUM they had to serve 2 1/2 years. (3) On duty, they wore greenish overalls 50X1-HUM over their uniforms and protective caps with chin straps. 50X1-HUM they were paid 600 zlotys per month. The unit was equipped with two 50X1-HUM types of tanks. One type was heavy and had six bogie wheels and three track-supporting rollers per side, a very wide track, a wedge-shaped nose, a revolving turret with a small commander's cupola rear of center, and a gun with

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET-CONTROL (NO. OF TOTALS ONLY) 004

50X1-HUMNo Change in Class. ☐☐ DeclassifiedClass. Changed To: TS S 6

Auth.: HR 70-2

Date: 11 Aug 78By 50X1-HUM

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

2

50X1

muzzle brake which projected far beyond the nose and had an outside diameter of about 140 mm. The tank mounted no AA weapons. The second type was smaller than the first type. It had five large bogie wheels per side, no track supporting rollers, a wedge-shaped nose, a driver's hatch in the left forward section, a revolving turret with rounded-off edges without a commander's cupola, and a gun without muzzle brake. No AA gun was observed. (4) From 20 to 22 tanks of both types participated in the troop review held in Poznan on 1 May 1950. The number of the heavy tanks slightly exceeded that of the light ones. During exercises held by this unit at the Biedrusko (P 53/X 27) troop training grounds, not more than about 15 tanks of the two types were observed. No special-purpose tanks, wrecker vehicles, or flatbed trailers were observed with the troops in Poznan or during field exercises at Biedrusko. Source stated that the tank unit had a "great number" of trucks, including American Studebakers and Soviet trucks. No German vehicles were seen. At regular intervals, the tank unit moved to the Biedrusko troop training grounds, going via Oborniki and the area north of Piatkowo. [redacted] march discipline was good and the drivers were skilled in cross-country driving. Breakdowns of tanks were seldom observed. At the training grounds the tanks were observed moving in a staggered formation. Training in firing was frequently observed. Source did not observe that the tank unit practiced together with troops of other branches of service. When practicing separately, the heavy tanks numbered six or seven. In spite of frequent political indoctrination, not all the tank troops were Communists. Many soldiers attended Catholic Mass services on Sundays. [redacted]

50X1-HUM

3. A barracks installation of one multi-story red brick building, about 45x20 meters, is located on ul. Slowackiego, about 500 to 700 meters from the circuit around the urban district of Jezyce and near the botanic garden of the city. The installation was occupied by about 250 troops who were 22 to 25 years old. The soldiers wore gray-blue uniforms, dark-blue triangular collar patches, and a dark-blue ribbon around their blue service caps. Only small arms, mostly submachine guns with drum and clip magazines, were carried by the troops. (5)

RKU (Recruiting Office) in Poznan.

4. The RKU was located on ul. Slowackiego, opposite the barracks installation described in paragraph 3. Draftees from the entire district of Poznan had to report to the office for registration.

UB (Security Police) Installations in Poznan.

5. The UB offices were located in a compound which contained several groups of buildings on both sides of ul. Kochanowskiego and north of ul. Dabrowskiego. The compound was surrounded by a board fence, two meters high. The main entrance was located on ul. Kochanowskiego. One group of buildings fronting on ul. Dabrowskiego, ul. Mickiewicza, ul. Krasninskiego, and ul. Kochanowskiego, consists of two two-story administration buildings, each about 50 x 14 meters, one wooden conference building about 30 x 8 meters, two wooden storehouses, and one brick building housing a commissary. A second group of buildings fronting on Krasninskiego on the south and Kochanowskiego on the east includes a three-story administration building, about 25x10 meters, a stable with about 10 horses, and a parking lot for motor vehicles. A third group of buildings on the west side of ul. Kochanowskiego, opposite ul. Krasninskiego, includes a prison in its southern section and the prison kitchen and some more installations in its northern section.
6. The UB laundry serving UB personnel quartered in barracks was located on the south side of ul. Poznanska. The washing of an ECO school was frequently taken to this laundry.

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

3

50X1

7. Prior to August 1949 UB personnel wore gray-green uniforms with epaulets to match, triangular red collar patches, and round caps with a red ribbon. The chief of the UB office wore civilian clothes at all times. Except for sentries who were armed with rifles, all UB personnel carried pistols. Some of the UB personnel were billeted in the offices, while others went home after duty hours. [] service with the UB was voluntary and acknowledged as active military duty. In general, UB personnel were 20 to 30 years old. (6) 50X1-HUM

[] Comments. 50X1-HUM

- (1) The signal-communications detachment probably was the Soviet detail which [] reported to be stationed between the Biedrusko troop training grounds and Poznan, since Piatkowo is located on the way from Poznan to Biedrusko. [] A similar detachment was also observed in Kutno. 50X1-HUM
- (2) Tank units have been repeatedly reported to be quartered in this barracks installation. According to one report, a tank training center and a tank officer candidate school are located there. Other [] reported a 3d or 5th Tank Regt there. A tank division, to which the unit might have belonged, has not been identified. 50X1-HUM
- (3) Troops of all army units serve only two years. In the summer of 1950, the 1927 and 1928 classes were in active service.
- (4) The description of the heavy tank corresponds to that of the Soviet JS-1 tank which, in contrast to the JS-2 and JS-3 models, does not mount an AA machine gun. The smaller tanks were T-34s.
- (5) The pinpoint location of the barracks installation cannot be identified in the Poznan city plan. The blue uniforms indicate an MO (Militia) unit.
- (6) It is fairly definitely believed that UB (Security Police) personnel no longer wear red collar patches and red cap ribbons. They probably wear black insignia now.

~~SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~